Formed Solid Surface Pty Ltd

Solid Surface Shower Base

Installation Manual

IMPORTANT: Installation must comply with AS3740, AS3500, AS3588, the NCC, and relevant substrate standards. Outlet connection must be completed by a licensed plumber.

⚠ IMPORTANT: READ BEFORE INSTALLATION

This guide is supplied for inclusion in the customer order box and is intended to be followed by the installer step-by-step, for the relevant flooring.

Compliance: Installation must comply with AS3740 (Waterproofing), AS3500 (Plumbing & Drainage), the NCC, AS1684 (timber framing where applicable), AS3588 (Shower Bases & Shower Modules) and AS2870 (slabs & footings).

Licensed plumbing: Outlet connection must be completed by a licensed plumber.

Warranty: Failure to follow these instructions (including mandatory water testing) may void warranty.

Key principle: The base must be **fully supported** across its footprint — do not install over voids or spot-bonded areas.

Compliance Information:

Scan the QR code to check your wet area is compliant.

WATERPROOFING INTEGRATION (AS3740)

The solid surface base material is waterproof; however, the surrounding wet area must be waterproofed in accordance with AS3740.

1. Waterproof membrane must integrate to wall/floor junctions and around penetrations as per AS3740.
2. Do not obstruct the drainage zone at the outlet.
3. Follow the waterproofing system manufacturer’s instructions for primers, tapes and cure times.

PRODUCT SPECIFICATIONS

Minimum outlet setback: **120mm** from the outside edge of the base to the centre of the outlet.

Base Thickness	Colour Availability	Total Height (with 10mm wall lip)	Engineered Fall to Waste
12mm	White & selected colours	22mm	6mm
19mm	White only	29mm	13mm
20mm	Colour range only	30mm	14mm

Falls are engineered to support NCC / AS3740 requirements (**1:80 maximum**). For large bases or challenging outlet positions, thicker material may be required to maintain compliant fall. This product has been manufactured and designed in accordance with principles outlined in **AS 3588 Shower Bases and Shower Modules.**

Lip geometry (reference): Wall lip 10mm. Screen lip 35mm. (If your order specifies alternate lip configuration, follow the order form.)

TOOLS & MATERIALS REQUIRED

- Sikaflex 11FC (or approved polyurethane adhesive/sealant specified by Wet Area Solutions).
- Self-levelling compound (and primer if required by self-leveller manufacturer).
- Sanitary grade silicone for perimeter sealing.
- Spirit level (600mm+ recommended), straight edge, tape measure, pencil/marker.
- Clean rags, methylated spirits (for cleaning only), vacuum/broom.
- Weights for curing (e.g., multiple smaller weights to distribute load evenly).
- Protective covering (cardboard/Corflute/ply + soft underlay) to protect surface during construction.

SUBSTRATE REQUIREMENTS (READ CAREFULLY)

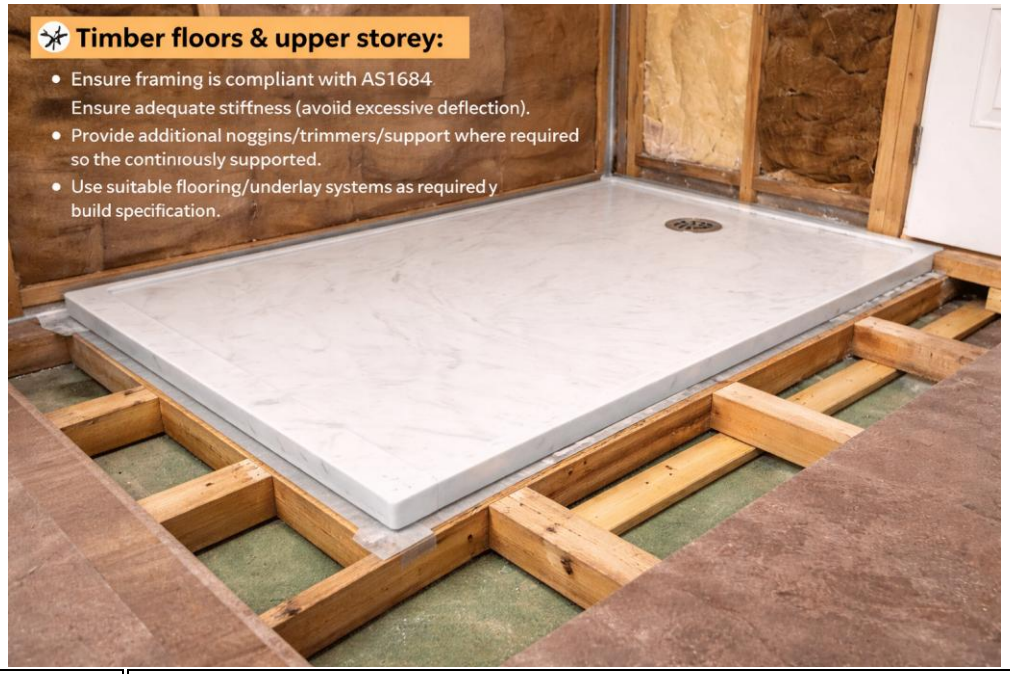
The base must be installed on a substrate that is clean, dry, structurally sound (NCC compliant) and **fully supportive**.

- Flatness/level: correct high spots and fill low spots. As a guide, keep variation within **3mm over the base footprint**.

- No movement: any substrate movement will transfer to surrounding finishes and can cause cracking or seal failure.
- No voids: the base must not bridge over holes, trenches, or unsupported areas (especially around the waste).

Timber floors & upper storey

Rule	Requirement
Structural support	Timber framing must comply with **AS1684**
Base support	Base must be **fully supported across the entire footprint**
Adhesive method	Continuous beads only – **no spot bonding**
Expansion allowance	Maintain **1–2mm perimeter gap**
Compliance	Installation must comply with **NCC, AS3740, and AS3500**



Step	Task	Instructions	Critical Notes
1	Inspect structural framing	Confirm floor framing is structurally sound and compliant with **AS1684 (Residential Timber Framing)**.	Floor must support the weight of the base, user load, and finishes without excessive deflection.
2	Check floor stiffness	Ensure the floor system has adequate rigidity and does not flex or bounce under load.	Excessive deflection can cause cracking in finishes and seal failure around the base.
3	Install additional supports	Install **noggins, trimmers, or blocking** between joists where required to support the entire base footprint.	The base must be fully supported with **no unsupported spans**.
4	Install suitable flooring substrate	Install appropriate sheet flooring such as **structural plywood or fibre cement sheeting** in accordance with building specifications.	Flooring must be securely fixed and capable of supporting the base evenly.

Step	Task	Instructions	Critical Notes
5	Check substrate flatness	Confirm the substrate is flat across the entire base footprint.	Surface tolerance should be **≤ 3mm variation across the base area**. Use levelling compound if required.
6	Install waste outlet and plumbing	Install the waste outlet and trap assembly according to **AS3500 – Plumbing and Drainage**.	Plumbing work must be completed by a **licensed plumber**.
7	Waterproof the wet area	Apply waterproof membrane to floor and walls in accordance with **AS3740 – Waterproofing of Domestic Wet Areas**.	Membrane must extend up surrounding walls **minimum 150mm** and integrate with the outlet flange.
8	Dry fit the shower base	Place the base into position without adhesive to confirm outlet alignment, wall lip orientation, and perimeter clearance.	The base should sit flat without rocking or movement.
9	Apply adhesive	Apply **Sikaflex 11FC or equivalent polyurethane adhesive** across the substrate using continuous beads.	Bead size **10mm**, spaced **100mm apart**. Do **not spot bond**.
10	Maintain outlet clearance	Allow space around the outlet plumbing to prevent the base bridging over the trap.	Maximum unsupported area **300mm × 300mm** around the waste outlet.
11	Install the shower base	Carefully lower the base into the adhesive bed while aligning the outlet with the waste pipe.	Do not slide the base after placement. Apply even pressure to seat the base fully.
12	Check level and fall	Use a spirit level to confirm the base perimeter is level and the internal fall directs water to the waste.	Solid surface bases are engineered with internal fall; confirm correct drainage direction.
13	Maintain expansion gap	Leave a **1–2mm perimeter gap** between the base and surrounding walls.	This expansion allowance prevents stress cracking or movement damage.
14	Seal perimeter	Apply **sanitary-grade silicone** along the wall junctions and exposed edges of the base.	Prevents water ingress and allows movement between surfaces.
15	Allow adhesive curing	Allow adhesive to cure before using the shower.	Minimum curing time **24 hours** before loading or traffic.

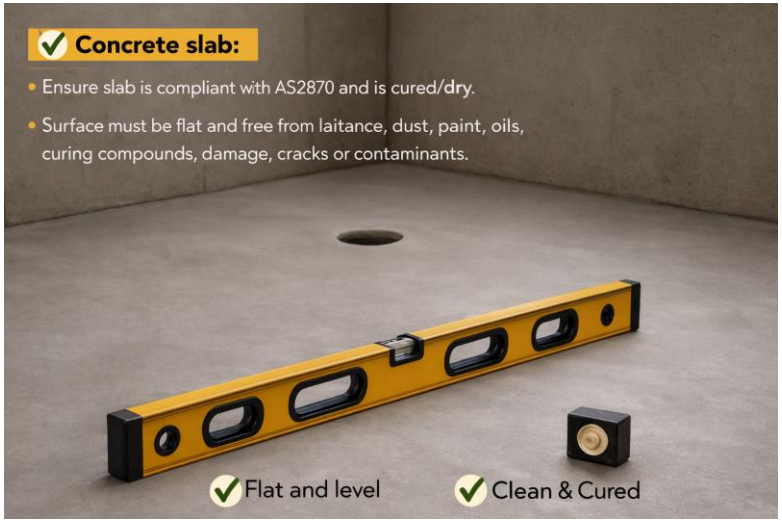
Step	Task	Instructions	Critical Notes
16	Final inspection	Perform a water test to confirm drainage, stability, and sealing.	Ensure no movement in the base and confirm proper water flow to the outlet.

END OF TIMBER FLOORS & SECOND STOREY INSTALL GUIDE

Concrete slab installation

Rule	Requirement
Substrate condition	Concrete slab must be **clean, dry, and structurally sound**
Adhesive method	Continuous beads only – **no spot bonding**

Rule	Requirement
Base support	Full support required under the base footprint
Expansion gap	Maintain **1–2mm perimeter gap**
Compliance	Installation must comply with **NCC, AS3740, and AS3500**



Step	Task	Instructions	Critical Notes
1	Inspect concrete slab	Confirm the concrete slab is structurally sound, stable, and free of cracks or movement.	Substrate must be suitable for supporting the full weight of the shower base and user load.
2	Check substrate flatness	Check floor level across the full base footprint.	Surface tolerance should be ≤ 3mm variation across the base area. Use self-levelling compound if required.
3	Clean slab surface	Remove dust, debris, oils, paint, adhesive residue, and contaminants from the slab surface.	Adhesive must bond directly to clean concrete. Vacuum and wipe down before installation.
4	Install puddle flange and waste	Install the waste outlet and puddle flange so the collar sits inside the pipe and the flange plate sits flat on the slab.	The puddle flange forms the connection between the waterproof membrane and drainage system.
5	Fix the puddle flange	Secure the flange so there is no movement.	Depending on the system, the flange may be screwed to the slab, glued, or embedded in screed.
6	Apply waterproofing	Waterproof the floor and surrounding walls in accordance with AS3740 – Waterproofing of Domestic Wet Areas.	Membrane must integrate with the puddle flange and extend up walls minimum 150mm.
7	Dry fit the shower base	Place the base in position without adhesive to confirm outlet alignment, wall lip orientation, and perimeter clearance.	The base should sit flat without rocking or movement.
8	Apply adhesive	Apply Sikaflex 11FC or equivalent polyurethane adhesive across the slab surface in continuous beads.	Bead size **10mm,** spaced **100mm apart. Do not spot bond.**

Step	Task	Instructions	Critical Notes
9	Maintain outlet clearance	Leave a small unsupported area around the waste outlet.	Maximum unsupported area 300mm × 300mm to allow space for plumbing components.
10	Install the shower base	Carefully lower the base into the adhesive bed while aligning the outlet with the waste pipe.	Do not slide the base around after placement. Apply gentle downward pressure to seat the base.
11	Check level and fall	Use a spirit level to confirm the base perimeter is level and the internal fall directs water to the waste.	Solid surface bases are pre-falled; confirm correct drainage direction.
12	Maintain expansion gap	Leave a 1–2mm perimeter gap between the base and surrounding walls.	This gap allows for expansion and prevents stress cracking.
13	Seal perimeter	Apply sanitary-grade silicone along the wall junction where the base meets the wall.	Prevents water ingress and allows movement between surfaces.
14	Allow adhesive curing	Allow adhesive to cure before using the shower.	Minimum curing time 24 hours. Do not walk on the base during curing.
15	Final inspection	Conduct a water test to confirm drainage, stability, and sealing.	Check for movement in the base and ensure water drains freely to the outlet.

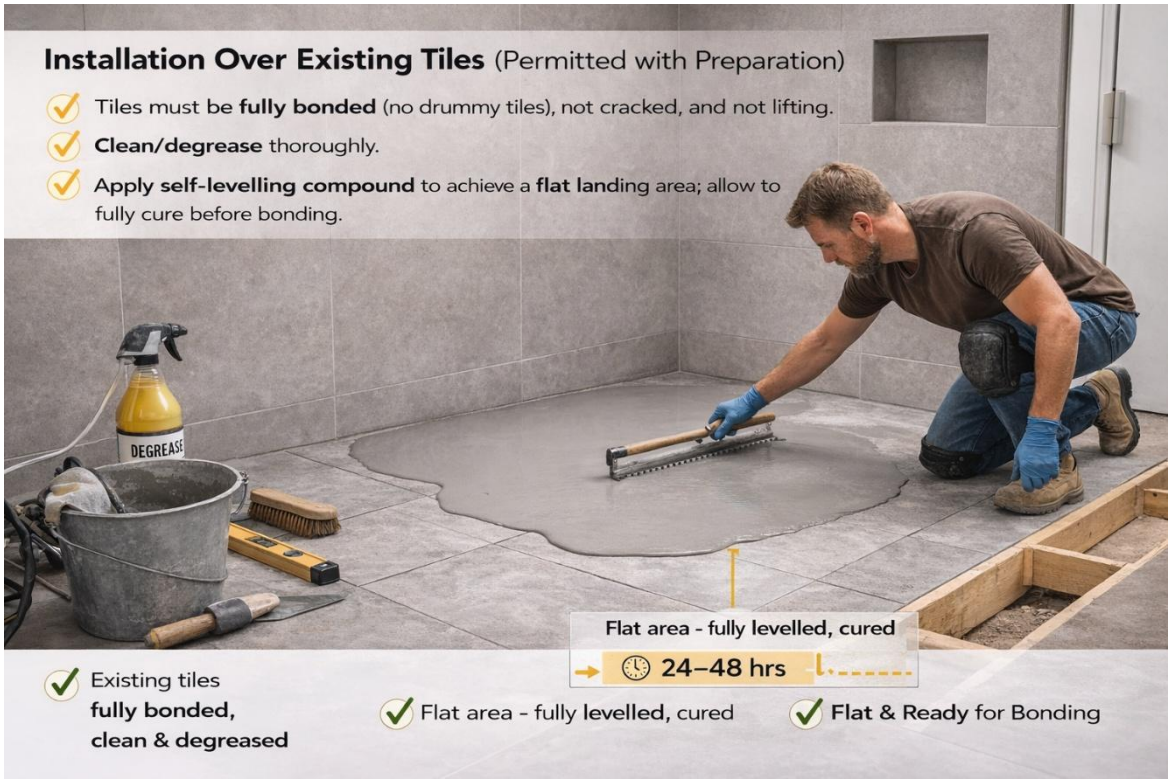
Substrate flatness should be within: ≤ 3 mm variation across the footprint If outside tolerance, apply self-levelling compound.

END OF CONCRETE SLAB INSTALLATION GUIDE

Installation over existing tiles

Rule	Requirement
Tile condition	Do not install over loose or cracked tiles

Adhesive method	Continuous beads only – **no spot bonding**
Base support	Full support required under the base footprint
Expansion gap	Maintain **1–2mm perimeter gap**
Compliance	Installation must comply with **NCC, AS3740, and AS3500**



Step	Task	Instructions	Critical Notes
1	Inspect existing tiles	Confirm tiles are firmly bonded, not cracked, loose, or drummy. Check grout lines and structural stability.	Any loose or cracked tiles must be removed and repaired before installation.

Step	Task	Instructions	Critical Notes
2	Confirm substrate flatness	Check floor level across the full base footprint.	Surface tolerance should be **≤ 3mm variation across the base area**. Use self-levelling compound if required.
3	Clean tile surface	Thoroughly clean tiles to remove soap residue, grease, dust, silicone, and contaminants.	Adhesive must bond directly to the tile surface. Recommended cleaning with **isopropyl alcohol or acetone**.
4	Abrade tile surface	Lightly sand glossy tiles using **80–120 grit sandpaper or diamond pad**.	This improves adhesive bonding to glazed surfaces. Clean dust thoroughly afterwards.
5	Confirm waste outlet height	Check that the outlet pipe height aligns correctly with the base outlet and puddle flange.	Installing over tiles raises floor height. Adjust waste height if required.
6	Confirm waterproofing	Determine whether waterproofing already exists beneath the tiled floor.	If waterproofing is not present, waterproofing must be installed to **AS3740** requirements.
7	Dry fit the shower base	Place the base in position without adhesive. Confirm outlet alignment, wall lip orientation, and perimeter clearance.	The base should sit flat without rocking or movement.
8	Apply adhesive	Apply **Sikaflex 11FC or equivalent polyurethane adhesive** directly onto the tiles in continuous beads.	Bead size **10mm**, spaced **100mm apart**. Do **not spot bond**.
9	Allow outlet clearance	Maintain a small unsupported area around the waste outlet.	Maximum unsupported area **300mm × 300mm** to allow space for plumbing components.
10	Install the shower base	Carefully lower the base onto the adhesive bed while aligning the outlet with the waste pipe.	Do not slide the base around after placement. Apply gentle downward pressure to seat the base.
11	Check level and fall	Use a spirit level to confirm the base perimeter is level and internal fall directs water to the waste.	Solid surface bases include internal fall; verify proper drainage direction.

Step	Task	Instructions	Critical Notes
12	Maintain expansion gap	Leave a **1–2mm perimeter gap** between the base and surrounding walls.	Do not fill this gap with rigid materials. Expansion allowance prevents cracking.
13	Seal perimeter	Apply **sanitary-grade silicone** along wall junctions and exposed edges.	This prevents water ingress and allows movement between surfaces.
14	Allow adhesive curing	Leave adhesive to cure before use.	Minimum curing time **24 hours**. Do not walk on or load the base during curing.
15	Final inspection	Perform a water test and confirm drainage, stability, and silicone seals.	Verify there is no movement in the base and water drains correctly.

END OF EXSISTING TILES INSTALLATION GUIDE

INSTALLATION — STEP BY STEP

Follow steps in order. **Do not** skip the water test.

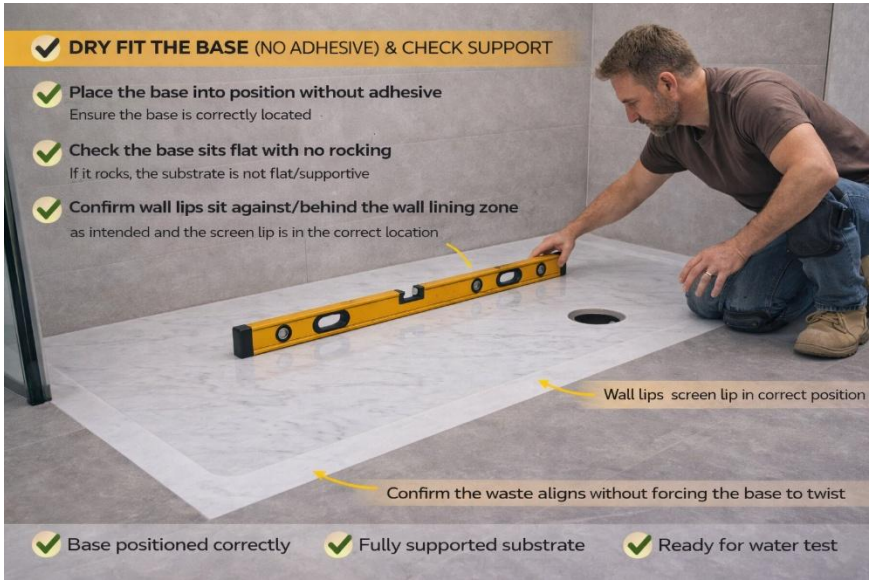
Step 1 — Confirm the order, orientation & outlet location

- Unpack and inspect the base for damage. Do not install a damaged base.
- Confirm the base thickness and finish matches the order (12mm / 19mm / 20mm; colour/white as ordered).
- Confirm lip configuration on each side (wall lips / screen lip / no lip).
- Confirm the outlet centre is a minimum of 120mm from the outside edge of the base.
- **Mark wall lines and the intended screen position so you can verify the base sits correctly once installed.**

If your outlet position is close to an edge or the base is large, ensure the ordered thickness supports compliant fall (as per NCC/AS3740 guidance).

Step 2 — Dry fit the base (no adhesive) & check support

- Place the base into position without adhesive.
- Check the base sits flat with no rocking. If it rocks, the substrate is not flat/supportive.
- Confirm wall lips sit against/behind the wall lining zone as intended and the screen lip is in the correct location.
- Confirm the waste aligns without forcing the base to twist.

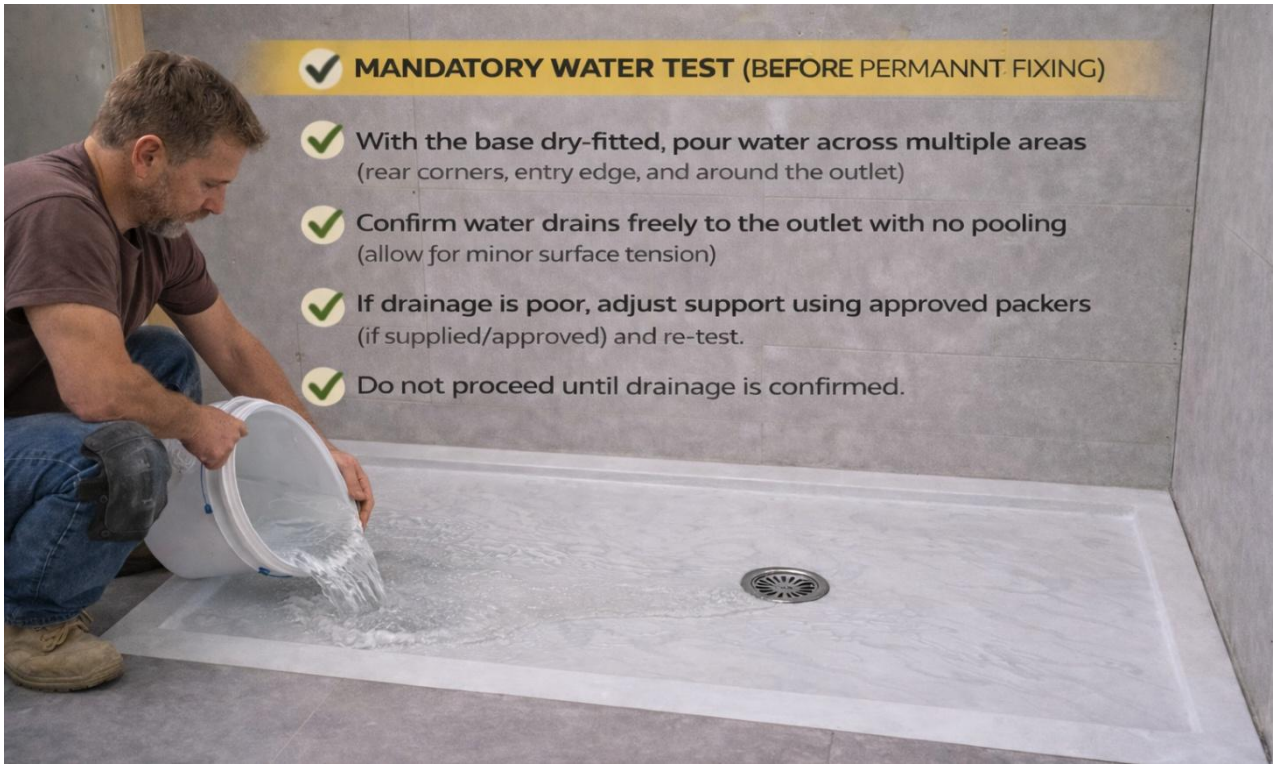


If the base does not sit flat: the base will appear to be “not-flat”’ to a certain degree until it is adhered and weighed down for 24-48 hours, it appears this way due to the ‘fall’ to the waste.

Mandatory water test (before permanent fixing)

1. With the base dry-fitted, pour water across multiple areas (rear corners, entry edge, and around the outlet).
2. Confirm water drains freely to the outlet with no pooling (allow for minor surface tension).

3. If drainage is poor, adjust support using approved packers (if supplied/approved) and re-test.
4. Do not proceed until drainage is confirmed.

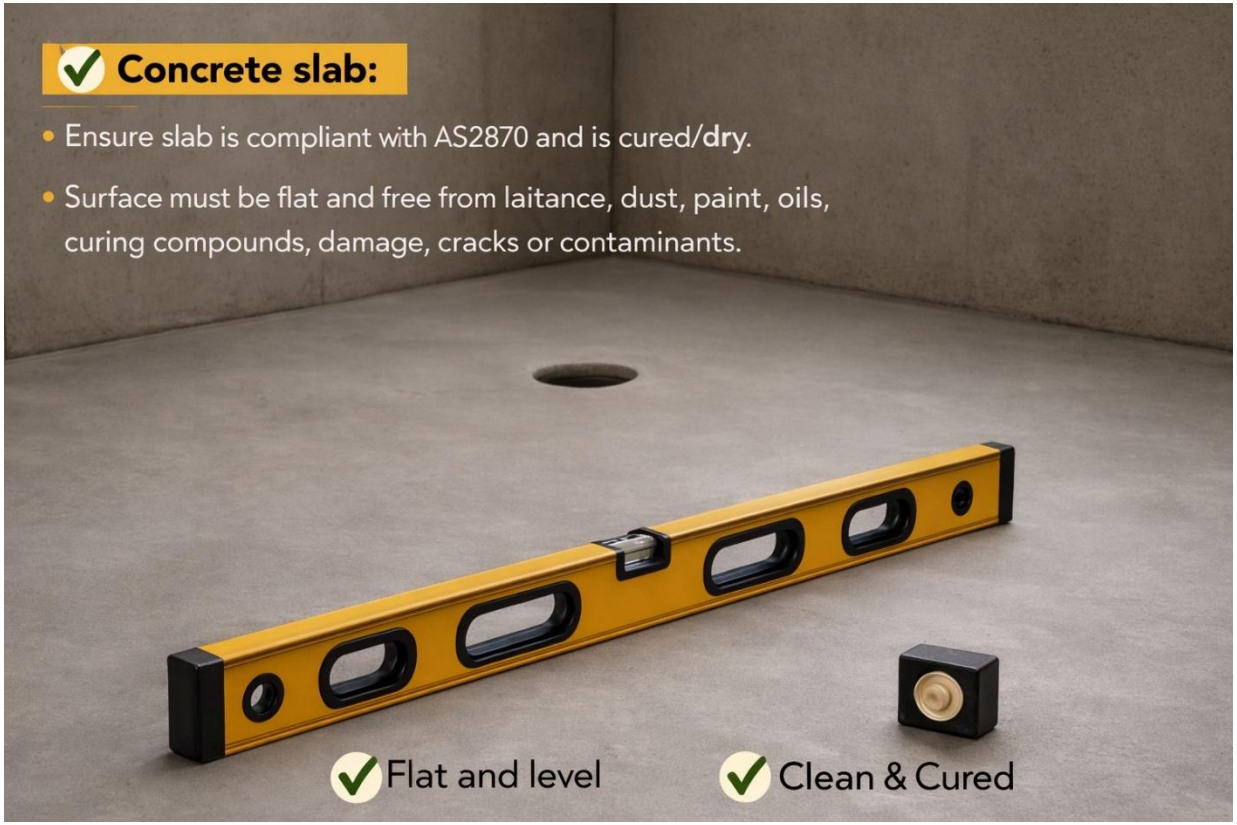


Drainage performance is installation-dependent. Record this step for warranty purposes (photos recommended).

Prepare and level the substrate / waterproof membrane

1. Remove the base and clean/vacuum the substrate.
2. Apply a waterproof membrane.

3. Pour self-levelling compound to create a continuous, flat landing area under the entire base footprint.
4. Allow leveller to fully cure before bonding the base (do not install on 'green' leveller).
5. Once cured, check the self-leveller is completely flat by using a spirit level before proceeding.



Outlet preparation (Suggested licensed plumber)

Concrete substrate (puddle flange supplied) chrome outlet only:

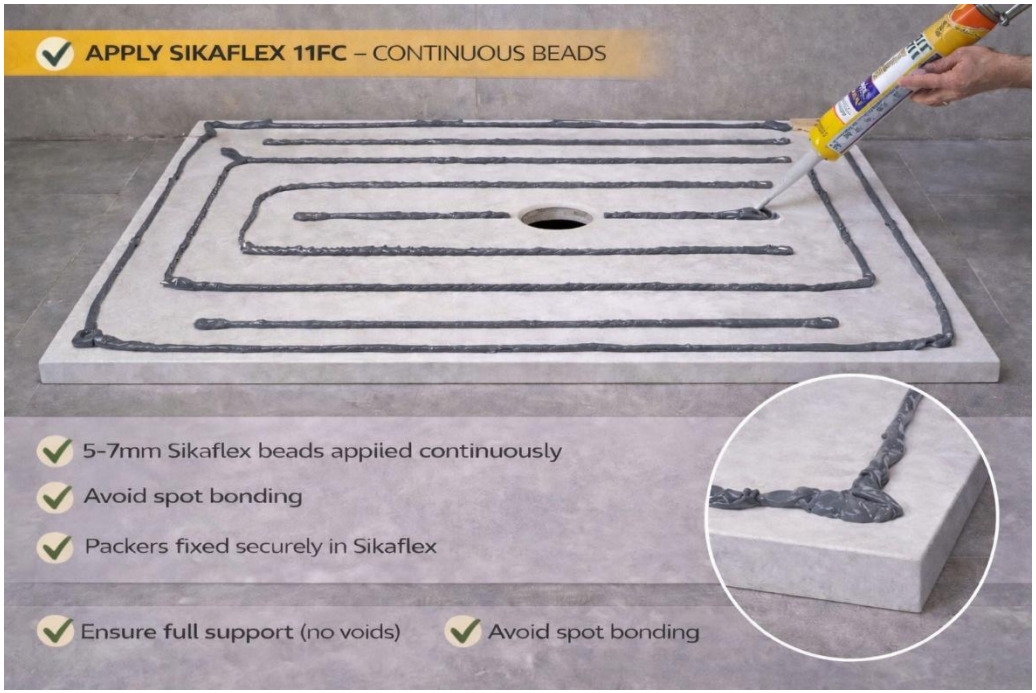
1. Install the puddle flange flush and in the correct location.
2. Ensure the flange does not hold the base off the substrate.
3. Apply two continuous beads/rings of Sikaflex 11FC to the sealing area to ensure a watertight seal.

Other substrates & outlets (chrome, white and flush caps):

4. Install the required trap/outlet assembly per plumbing standards (AS3500).
5. Ensure the area around the trap is fully supported/backfilled to prevent the base spanning a void.

Confirm alignment so the base is not forced into a twist.

Important: Leaking joints are not covered by warranty. Outlet sealing is the installer's responsibility.



Apply Sikaflex 11FC (bonding)

1. Confirm the substrate is clean and dry.
2. Apply Sikaflex 11FC in continuous 10mm beads across the footprint, with 100mm spacing to support the base (avoid spot bonding).
3. If packers are used, fix them in place with Sikaflex so they cannot move and do not create point loads. **SEE NEXT PAGE FOR PACKER INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS.**

Packers Under Solid Surface Shower Base | Installer Rules

- Packers only to correct minor substrate level variations.
- Do not use packers to fix poorly prepared substrates.

- Maximum packer height 10 mm unless manufacturer approved.
- Larger height corrections must be done using self-levelling compound or screed.

Support Requirements

- Base must have full support across entire footprint.
- No voids or hollow areas permitted under the base.
- Packers must not create point loads.
- Apply continuous polyurethane adhesive (e.g. Sikaflex 11FC) between packers.

Fixing Packers

- Packers must be securely fixed to the substrate before installing the base.
- Fix using polyurethane adhesive or mechanical fixing.
- Loose packers are not permitted.

Approved Packer Materials

- PVC
- High-density plastic
- Fibre cement
- Composite packers suitable for wet areas

Do NOT use

- Timber
- MDF / particle board
- Cardboard
- Foam or compressible materials

Packer Placement

- Place packers around perimeter support zones.
- Place packers near waste outlet area.
- Install across base at 300–400 mm centres (max).
- Apply each packer 50mm apart.

Fall & Alignment

- Packers must not alter the designed fall to the waste.
- Base must remain level side-to-side.

- Water must freely drain to the outlet.

Adhesive Bedding

- Apply 10mm continuous beads (50mm apart) of polyurethane adhesive across the footprint.
- Avoid spot bonding.

Final Check

- Base must be rigid with no movement or rocking.
- Confirm correct outlet alignment before sealing.

Installer Responsibility

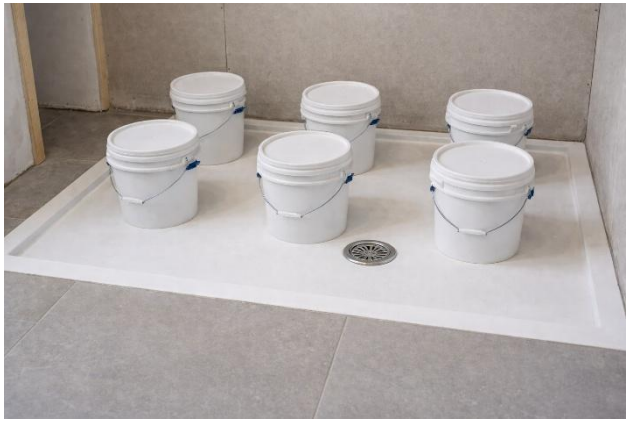
- Ensure substrate preparation and installation comply with Australian Standards.
- Installation must meet AS 3740 (Wet Area Waterproofing) and AS/NZS 3500 (Plumbing & Drainage).
- Incorrect packing may lead to drainage issues, structural stress, or warranty void.

END OF PACKER INSTALLATION

Set the base & weight evenly

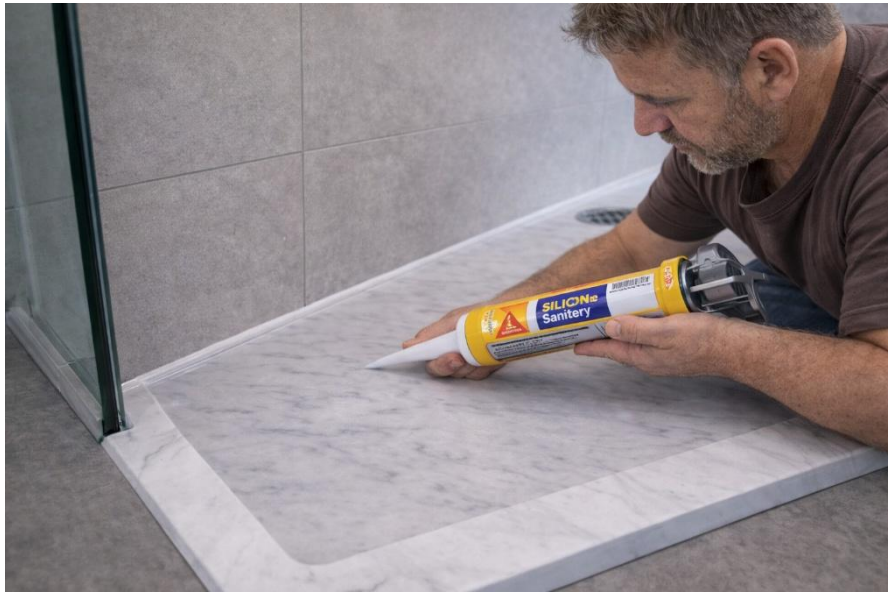
1. Lower the base evenly into the adhesive bed.

2. Check alignment to wall lines and the outlet.
3. Apply distributed weight evenly across the base while curing (multiple smaller weights are preferred) leave to cure typically overnight.



Perimeter sealing & expansion allowance

1. Maintain a 1–2mm perimeter expansion allowance to walls/finishes.
2. Seal perimeter using sanitary-grade silicone.
3. Do not hard-pack edges with rigid materials—allow for movement to protect adjoining finishes.

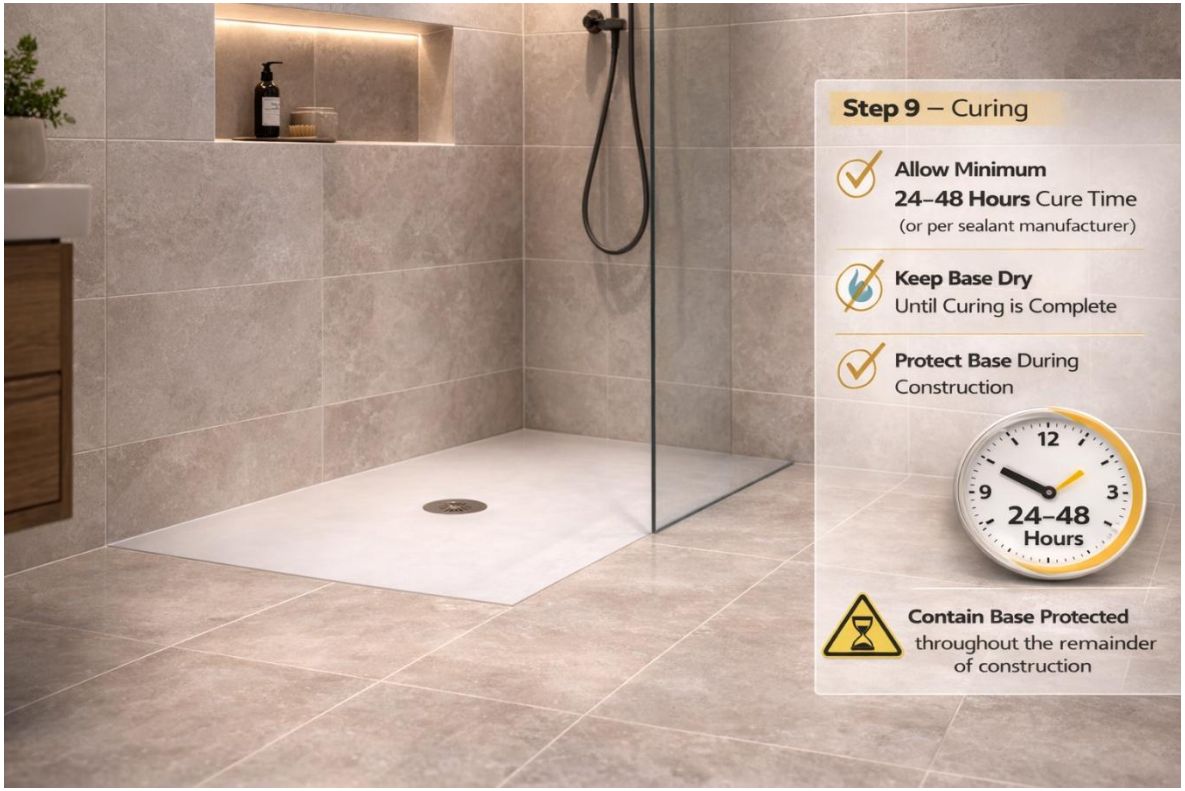


Curing

1. Allow a minimum of 24–48 hours cure time (or per sealant manufacturer) before traffic, tiling loads, or screen installation.

2. Do not expose the installation to water until curing is complete.

3. Keep the base protected throughout the remainder of construction.



END OF STEP BY STEP INSTALLATION GUIDE

TROUBLESHOOTING — COMMON ISSUES

Base rocks / feels hollow: substrate is not flat or base is bridging a void. Remove base and correct with leveller/support.

Pooling water: drainage not verified at dry-fit stage; substrate may be twisting base. Re-check support and outlet alignment.

Outlet leak: inadequate sealing or misalignment. Licensed plumber to rectify; ensure watertight seal before use

CARE, CLEANING & MAINTENANCE

1. Clean with mild detergent and a damp cloth.
2. Do not use abrasive pads, caustic soda, acetone, methanol, or strong solvents.
3. Maximum recommended water temperature: 50°C.

Damage caused by improper treatment is not covered by warranty.

INSTALLER CHECKLIST (RECOMMENDED)

1. ■ Outlet setback confirmed (≥120mm) and outlet aligned.
2. ■ Base dry-fitted; no rocking; fully supported.
3. ■ Mandatory water test completed and drainage confirmed (photos taken).
4. ■ Substrate level/flat corrected; leveller fully cured (if used).
5. ■ Outlet sealed and plumbing completed by licensed plumber.
6. ■ Sikaflex applied as continuous support bed (no voids).
7. ■ Perimeter expansion allowance (1–2mm) provided and sealed.
8. ■ Cure time observed (24–48 hrs) before loading/finishes.

Leave a copy of these instructions with the end user for future reference.

Manufacturer Statement of Suitability

formed Solid Surface Pty Ltd confirms that the **Solid Surface Shower Base** supplied for installation at the above property is manufactured as a **non-porous solid surface shower base suitable for use in domestic wet areas** when installed in accordance with the manufacturer's installation instructions and applicable Australian Standards.

The product has been designed to be installed in conjunction with the relevant provisions of the following:

- **National Construction Code (NCC)** – Building Code of Australia
- **AS3740 – Waterproofing of Domestic Wet Areas**
- **AS3500 – Plumbing and Drainage**
- **AS1684 – Residential Timber Framing** (where applicable)
- **AS2870 – Residential Slabs and Footings** (where applicable)
- This product has been designed in accordance with principles outlined in **AS 3588 Shower Bases and Shower Modules.** Installation must comply with **AS 3740 Waterproofing of Wet Areas** and **AS/NZS 3500 Plumbing and Drainage.**

The shower base incorporates **engineered internal falls directing water toward the outlet** to support compliant drainage performance in accordance with NCC and AS3740 requirements when correctly installed.

The base material itself is **waterproof and non-porous**, however the surrounding wet area must be waterproofed in accordance with **AS3740** and integrated correctly with the drainage system.

Installation procedures and compliance requirements are detailed in the **formed Solid Surface Shower Base Installation Manual**.

formed Solid Surface Pty Ltd Revision 1.0 Installation Guide

Important Installation Notice

formed Solid Surface Pty Ltd **manufactures and supplies** solid surface shower bases but **does not perform or supervise installation**.

Correct installation is the responsibility of the **builder, installer, and licensed trades engaged on the project**.

To achieve compliance with the NCC and relevant Australian Standards, the installer must ensure the following requirements are met:

- The shower base is installed on a **clean, dry, structurally sound and fully supported substrate**.
- The supporting substrate is **flat within 3mm across the footprint of the base**.
- The base is installed using **continuous polyurethane adhesive support (no spot bonding)**.
- A **1–2mm perimeter expansion allowance** is maintained and sealed using sanitary-grade silicone.
- The surrounding wet area is **waterproofed in accordance with AS3740**.
- The **waste outlet and plumbing connections are completed by a licensed plumber** in accordance with **AS3500**.
- A **water test is conducted prior to final fixing** to confirm correct drainage and outlet alignment.

Failure to follow the manufacturer's installation instructions may result in **non-compliant installation and may void the product warranty**.

INSTALLER SIGN-OFF

Installer Name	
Company	
Phone / Email	
Licensed Plumber (if applicable)	
Installation Address	
Installation Date	
Water Test Completed	Yes ■ No ■
Photos Taken (recommended)	Yes ■ No ■
Signature	

Upon completion of this installation, formed Solid Surface Pty Ltd accepts no liability for defects, damage, or failures resulting from installer error or non-compliant installation practices.